PRESS RELEASE

House Armed Services Committee Bob Stump, Chairman

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2002

CONTACT

Ryan Vaart Meghan Wedd (202) 225-2539

CHAIRMAN STUMP "DISAPPOINTED" BY ICC RATIFICATION

Expresses concerns about impact on U.S. Service Members

"I am disappointed that 60 countries have ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC). Though well intentioned, the ICC is an idealistic agreement that may do more harm than good.

"The ICC will do nothing to dissuade evil dictators from committing crimes against humanity. In fact, it will serve only to discourage those who oppose tyrants, and seek to help others in their efforts to do so, from becoming involved in United Nations peacemaking and humanitarian missions. The ICC will have a chilling effect on international participation in such efforts.

"I urge the Administration to make clear that the United States shall not participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations unless U.S. forces are immune from the criminal jurisdiction of U.N. tribunals. I look forward to working with the President to protect the civilian and uniformed members of the United States military from unfair prosecution by the ICC, and other unintended consequences."

###